

STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION DIVISION OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL 401 Church Street

L&C Annex 6th Floor Nashville, TN 37243-1534

April 22, 2008

Mr. Lawrence Ault – Registered Agent LMT Development Company Inc. 1st TN Plaza, S-1832 800 South Gay Street Knoxville, Tennessee 37929

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
RECEIPT #7007 2560 0003 3385 7510

Subject:

DIRECTOR'S ORDER NO. WPC08-0092

THE VILLAS AT JACKSON BEND BLOUNT COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Dear Mr. Ault:

Enclosed is a Director's Order and Assessment of Civil Penalty issued by Paul E. Davis, Director of the Division of Water Pollution Control, under the delegation of Commissioner James H. Fyke. Read the Order carefully and pay special attention to the NOTICE OF RIGHTS section.

Corporations, limited partnerships, limited liability companies, and other artificial entities created by law must be represented in any legal proceeding resulting from an appeal of this Order and Assessment by an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Tennessee. Non-attorneys may participate in any such proceedings to the extent allowed by law.

If you or your attorney has questions concerning this correspondence, contact Stephanie Fisher at (615) 532-3634.

Sincerely,

Patrick N. Parker, Manager

Enforcement and Compliance Section

PNP:SJF

cc:

DWPC - EFO-Knoxville

DWPC – Compliance File

OGC

STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)	
LMT DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, INC.) DIVISION OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL	
RESPONDENT) CASE NUMBER WPC08-0092	

DIRECTOR'S ORDER AND ASSESSMENT

NOW COMES Paul E. Davis, director of the Tennessee Division of Water Pollution Control, and states:

PARTIES

I.

Paul E. Davis is the duly appointed director of the Tennessee Division of Water Pollution Control by the commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (hereinafter the "division" and the "department" respectively).

П.

LMT Development Company, Inc., (hereinafter the "Respondent") is an active corporation licensed to conduct business in the state of Tennessee and is the owner of a residential development known as The Villas at Jackson Bend (hereinafter the "site") located off Rankin Ferry Loop in Blount County. Service of process may be made on the Respondent through Lawrence E. Ault, Registered Agent, at 1st TN Plaza, S-1832, 800 So Gay Street, Knoxville, Tennessee, 37929.

JURISDICTION

Ш.

Whenever the commissioner has reason to believe that a violation of Tennessee Code Annotated (T.C.A.) § 69-3-101 *et seq.*, the Water Quality Control Act (the "Act"), has occurred, or is about to occur, the commissioner may issue a complaint to the violator and the commissioner may order corrective action be taken pursuant to T.C.A. § 69-3-109(a) of the Act. Further, the commissioner has authority to assess civil penalties against any violator of the Act, pursuant to T.C.A. § 69-3-115 of the Act; and has authority to assess damages incurred by the state resulting from the violation, pursuant to T.C.A. § 69-3-116 of the Act. Department Rules governing general water quality criteria and use classifications for surface waters have been promulgated pursuant to T.C.A. § 69-3-105 and are effective as the *Official Compilation Rules and Regulations of the State of Tennessee*, Chapters 1200-4-3 and 1200-4-4 (the "Rule"). Pursuant to T.C.A. § 69-3-107(13), the commissioner may delegate to the director any of the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the commissioner under the Act.

IV.

The Respondent is a "person" as defined by T.C.A. § 69-3-103(20) and as herein described has violated the Act.

V.

Tennessee Code Annotated § 69-3-108 requires a person to obtain coverage under a permit from the department prior to discharging any substances to waters of the state, or to a location from which it is likely that the discharged substance will move into waters of the state. Coverage under the general permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity (hereinafter the "TNCGP") may be obtained by submittal of a Notice of Intent (NOI), a site specific Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and appropriate fee.

The unnamed tributary to Fort Loudoun Lake, described herein, is "waters of the state" as defined by T.C.A. § 69-3-103(33). Pursuant to T.C.A. § 69-3-105(a)(1), all waters of the state have been classified by the Tennessee Water Quality Control Board for suitable uses. Department Rule 1200-4-4, *Use Classifications for Surface Waters*, is contained in the *Rules of Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Division of Water Pollution Control Amendments*. Accordingly, these waters of the state are classified for the following uses: fish and aquatic life, recreation, irrigation, livestock watering and wildlife.

FACTS

VII.

On February 6, 2008, division personnel from the Knoxville Environmental Field Office (KEFO) conducted a complaint investigation at the site and noted that land disturbance activities greater than one acre were underway and that erosion prevention and sediment control (EPSC) measures had not been installed. Division personnel noted that grading of the banks and removal of riparian vegetation from two unnamed tributaries of Fort Loudoun Lake had occurred, allowing sediment to migrate into Fort Loudoun Lake. A file review indicated that coverage under the TNCGP and written ARAP authorization had not been requested or issued for these activities.

VIII.

On February 7, 2008, the division issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) to the Respondent for the violations noted during the February 6, 2008, site inspection. The Respondent was instructed to attend a Compliance Review Meeting (CRM), on February 19, 2008, at the KEFO.

On March 3, 2008, a NOI, SWPPP, and appropriate fee were submitted to the Knoxville Environmental Field Office (KEFO) by Mr. Mike Thomas site contact requesting coverage under the TNCGP for construction activities at the site. The NOI indicated LMT Development Company as owner/developer and contractor of the site. The division issued TNCGP coverage for these activities on April 1, 2008, under tracking number TNR133040.

X.

On April 9, 2008, division personnel conducted a routine inspection of the site. Division personnel noted that EPSC measures had not been installed in accordance with the SWPPP, and that sediment was migrating from unstable areas into Fort Loudoun Lake, resulting in a condition of pollution. In addition, division personnel noted that a spring-fed stream had been severely altered by the construction activities. A file review indicated that a written ARAP authorization had not been requested or issued for this activity.

XI.

On April 10, 2008, the division issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) to the Respondent for the violations noted during the April 9, 2008, site inspection. The Respondent was instructed to install and maintain EPSC measures in accordance with the SWPPP.

XII.

During the course of investigation the division incurred DAMAGES in the amount of ONE HUNDRED FIFTY FIVE DOLLARS AND FORTY CENTS (\$155.40).

VIOLATIONS

XIII.

By altering waters of the state without authorization under an ARAP and by conducting land disturbance activities without coverage under the TNCGP, the Respondent has violated T.C.A. §§ 69-3-108(b) and 114(b), which state in part:

§ 69-3-108(b):

It is unlawful for any person, other than a person who discharges into a publicly owned treatment works or a person who is a domestic discharger into a privately owned treatment works, to carry out any of the following activities, except in accordance with the conditions of a valid permit:

- (1) The alteration of the physical, chemical, radiological, biological, or bacteriological properties of any Waters of the State;
- (4) The development of a natural resource or the construction, installation, or operation of any establishment or any extension or modification thereof or addition thereto, the operation of which will or is likely to cause an increase in the discharge of wastes into the waters of the state or would otherwise alter the physical, chemical, radiological, biological or bacteriological properties of any waters of the state in any manner not already lawfully authorized;
- (6) The discharge of sewage, industrial wastes or other wastes into waters, or a location from which it is likely that the discharged substance will move into waters:

§ 69-3-114(b):

In addition, it is unlawful for any person to act in a manner or degree which is violative of any provision of this part or of any rule, regulation, or standard of water quality promulgated by the board or of any permits or orders issued pursuant to the provisions of this part; or fail or refuse to file an application for a permit as required in § 69-3-108; or to refuse to furnish, or to falsify any records, information, plans, specifications, or other data required by the board or the Commissioner under this part.

XIV.

By causing a condition of pollution to Fort Loudon Lake, the Respondent has violated T.C.A. Section § 69-3-114(a), which states:

T.C.A. § 69-3-114(a):

It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge any substance into the waters of the state or to place or cause any substance to be placed in any location where such substances, either by themselves or in combination with others, cause any of the damages as defined in § 69-3-103(22), unless such discharge shall be due to an unavoidable accident or unless such action has been properly authorized. Any such action is declared to be a public nuisance.

ORDER AND ASSESSMENT

XV.

WHEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested by T.C.A. §§ 69-3-109, 69-3-115 and 69-3-116, I, Paul E. Davis, hereby issue the following ORDER AND ASSESSMENT to the Respondent.

- 1. The Respondent shall, within 7 days of receipt of this ORDER AND ASSESSMENT, establish effective EPSC measures such that sediment is not allowed to leave the site or enter waters of the state. These measures shall be chosen and installed in accordance with the Tennessee Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook.
- 2. The Respondent shall, within 7 days of establishing effective EPSC measures, submit written documentation and photographic evidence indicating that these measures are in place. The Respondent shall submit this evidence to the Water Pollution Control Manager in the KEFO at 3711 Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee 37921, and a

copy to the Water Pollution Control Enforcement and Compliance (E&C) Section Manager, at 401 Church Street, 6th Floor L&C Annex, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1534.

- 3. The Respondent shall maintain EPSC measures until such time as all land disturbance activities at the site are complete and erosion-preventive permanent cover is established.
- 4. The Respondent shall, within 30 days of receipt of this ORDER AND ASSESSMENT, submit an application and supporting documents requesting written authorization under a General ARAP for Sediment Removal for Stream Remediation. These documents shall be submitted to the Water Pollution Control Manager in the KEFO at the address shown above in Item 2.
- 5. The Respondent shall, within 60 days of receiving written authorization from the division, complete the activities approved under the General ARAP for Sediment Removal for Stream Remediation and submit notification of the completion of these activities to the Water Pollution Control Manager in the KEFO at the address shown above in Item 2.
- 6. The Respondent shall, within 30 days of receipt of this ORDER AND ASSESSMENT pay DAMAGES to the division in the amount of ONE HUNDRED FIFTY FIVE DOLLARS AND FORTY CENTS (\$155.40).
- 7. The Respondent shall pay a CIVIL PENALTY of FOURTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$14,000.00) to the division, hereby ASSESSED to be paid as follows:

- a. The Respondent shall, within 30 days of entry of this ORDER AND ASSESSMENT,
 pay a CIVIL PENALTY in the amount of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000.00).
- b. If the Respondent fails to comply with Part XV, item 1 above in a timely manner, the Respondent shall pay a CIVIL PENALTY in the amount of TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00), payable within 30 days of default.
- c. If the Respondent fails to comply with Part XV, item 2 above in a timely manner, the Respondent shall pay a CIVIL PENALTY in the amount of TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00), payable within 30 days of default.
- d. If the Respondent fails to comply with Part XV item 3 above in a timely manner, the Respondent shall pay a CIVIL PENALTY in the amount of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000.00), payable within 30 days of default.
- e. If the Respondent fails to comply with Part XV, item 4 above in a timely manner, the Respondent shall pay a CIVIL PENALTY in the amount of TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00), payable within 30 days of default.
- f. If the Respondent fails to comply with Part XV, item 5 above in a timely manner, the Respondent shall pay a CIVIL PENALTY in the amount of TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00), payable within 30 days of default

The Respondent shall otherwise conduct business in accordance with the Act and rules promulgated pursuant to the Act.

The director may, for good cause shown, extend the compliance dates contained within this Order and Assessment. In order to be eligible for this time extension, the Respondent shall submit a written request to be received in advance of the compliance date. The written request must include sufficient detail to justify such an extension and include at a minimum the

anticipated length of the delay, the precise cause or causes of the delay, and all preventive measures taken to minimize the delay. Any such extension by the division will be in writing. Should the Respondent fail to meet the requirement by the extended date, any associated Civil Penalty shall become due 30 days thereafter.

Further, the Respondent is advised that the foregoing Order and Assessment is in no way to be construed as a waiver, expressed or implied, of any provision of the law or regulations. However, compliance with the Order and Assessment will be one factor considered in any decision whether to take enforcement action against the Respondent in the future.

Issued by the director of the Division of Water Pollution Control on behalf of the Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation on this day of April 2008.

Paul E. Davis, P.E.

Director, Division of Water Pollution Control

NOTICE OF RIGHTS

Tennessee Code Annotated §§ 69-3-109, 115, allow any Respondent named herein to secure review of this Order and Assessment. In order to secure review of this Order and Assessment, the Respondent must file with the Department's Office of General Counsel a written petition setting forth each of the Respondent's contentions and requesting a hearing before the Water Quality Control Board. The Respondent must file the written petition within thirty (30) days of receiving this Order and Assessment. The petition should be sent to: "Appeal of Enforcement Order, TDEC-OGC, 20th Floor L & C Tower, 401 Church Street, Nashville, TN 37243-1548".

If the required written petition is not filed within thirty (30) days of receipt of this Order and Assessment, the Order and Assessment shall become final and will be considered as an agreement to entry of a judgment by consent. Consequently, the Order and Assessment will not be subject to review pursuant to T.C.A. §§ 69-3-109 and 69-3-115.

Any hearing of this case before the Water Quality Control Board for which a Respondent properly petitions is a contested case hearing governed by T.C.A. § 4-5-301 *et seq.* (the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act.) and the Department of State's Uniform Rules of Procedure for Hearing Contested Cases Before State Administrative Agencies. The hearing is in the nature of a trial before the Board sitting with an Administrative Law Judge. The Respondent may subpoena witnesses on its behalf to testify.

If the Respondent is an individual, the Respondent may either obtain legal counsel representation in this matter, both in filing its written petition and in presenting evidence at the hearing, or proceed without an attorney. Low-income individuals may be eligible for representation at no cost or reduced cost through a local bar association or legal aid organization.

Payment of the civil penalty shall be made to "Treasurer, State of Tennessee" and shall be sent to the Division of Fiscal Services, Consolidated Fees Section, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, 14th Floor L & C Annex, 401 Church Street, Nashville, TN 37243. The case number, shown on the first page of this Order and Assessment, should be included on or with the payment. All other correspondence shall be sent to Paul E. Davis, Director, Division of Water Pollution Control, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, 6th Floor L & C Annex, 401 Church Street, Nashville, TN 37243.